

*AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled).

24. (New) A method of selling a prescription contact lens to a contact lens user, the method being implemented in a contact lens selling system, the selling system comprising

a communication network,

first and second group information processing apparatus communicating with each other through the communication network, each of the first and second group information processing apparatus respectively including means for writing data in a portable recording medium, means for reading the data written in the portable recording medium, calculation processing means for calculating, a memory, and transmitting and receiving means, wherein

the first group information processing apparatus is located at a contact lens seller,

the first group information processing apparatus assigns a registration number to the contact lens user based on a contract between the contact lens seller and the contact lens user,

the first group information processing apparatus stores the registration number of the contact lens user,

the first group information processing apparatus transfers the registration number stored to one of an ophthalmologist and an agent of the ophthalmologist,

the second group information processing apparatus is located at the ophthalmologist or the agent of the ophthalmologist,

the second group information processing apparatus receives the registration number from the first group information processing apparatus,

the second group information processing apparatus stores ophthalmic diagnosis information for the contact lens user that has been obtained by the ophthalmologist or the agent of the ophthalmologist,

the second group information processing apparatus transfers at least the registration number, date of sale of the contact lens, contact lens information, and the ophthalmic diagnosis information to the first information processing apparatus, the method of selling a prescription contact lens comprising:

assigning the registration number to the contact lens user when information from the contract is input to the first group information processing apparatus, after the contract has been entered into between the contact lens seller and the contact lens user;

storing the registration number in the memory of the first group information processing apparatus;

transmitting the information from the contract and the registration number from the first information processing apparatus to the second group information processing apparatus through the communication network;

storing the ophthalmic diagnosis information from the second group information processing apparatus in the portable recording medium;

transmitting the date of sale of the contact lens, the contact lens information, and the ophthalmic diagnosis information from the second group information processing apparatus to the first group information processing apparatus through the communication network;

determining a date for exchanging the contact lens based upon the date of sale of the contact lens, the contact lens information, and the ophthalmic diagnosis information; and

transferring to the contact lens user information notifying the contact lens user of the date for exchanging the contact lens that has been determined.